

In the claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-40 (Cancelled).

~~41.~~ (New) A method for delaying maximum polypeptide expression, said method comprising:

- (a) obtaining a mammal that exhibits an immune response against a polypeptide;
- (b) obtaining a cell comprising a vector comprising a regulatable promoter operably linked to nucleic acid encoding said polypeptide, wherein expression of said polypeptide by said cell is substantially inhibited *in vitro*;
- (c) introducing said cell into said mammal; and
- (d) increasing or decreasing the concentration of an inducing agent to which said cell is exposed thereby causing an increase in expression of said polypeptide, said increase in expression of said polypeptide occurring at a time after said introducing step.

F' 42. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein said cell is a leukocyte.

43. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein said cell is a B lymphocyte, T lymphocyte, monocyte, or macrophage.

44. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein said immune response comprises circulating antibodies against said polypeptide.

45. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein said regulatable promoter is a tetracycline-regulatable promoter.

46. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein said inducing agent is tetracycline or a tetracycline analog.

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47. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein said increase in expression of said polypeptide occurs two or more days after said introducing step.

48. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein said vector is a viral vector.
